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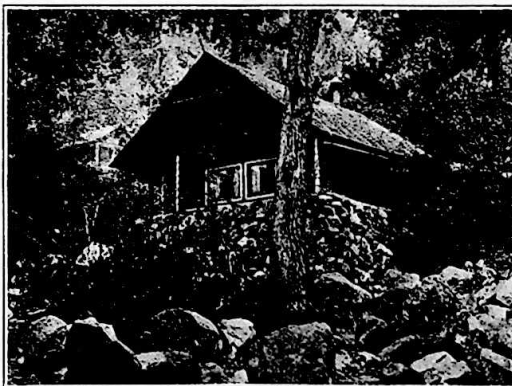
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# BIG PINES SKI CLUB YEAR BOOK

*Introduction by HARLOW DORMER, Secretary*

The Big Pines Ski Club was organized January 2, 1932, by a group of ski enthusiasts at Big Pines Recreation Camp at Swartout, California. Its purpose is to promote a healthy interest in outdoor recreation and particularly snow sports.

To keep a record of club membership and accomplishments and to place this record in the hands of every member, we have taken advantage of an offer to use TRAILS MAGAZINE for our annual publication.

Also in this Year Book we will include, as far as space will permit, articles by authorities on skiing, skiing equipment and ski contests throughout the west.

TRAILS MAGAZINE is published quarterly by the Mountain League of Southern California in the interest of outdoor recreation in the Southwest, particularly in Los Angeles County, and will be sent throughout the year to all of our members.

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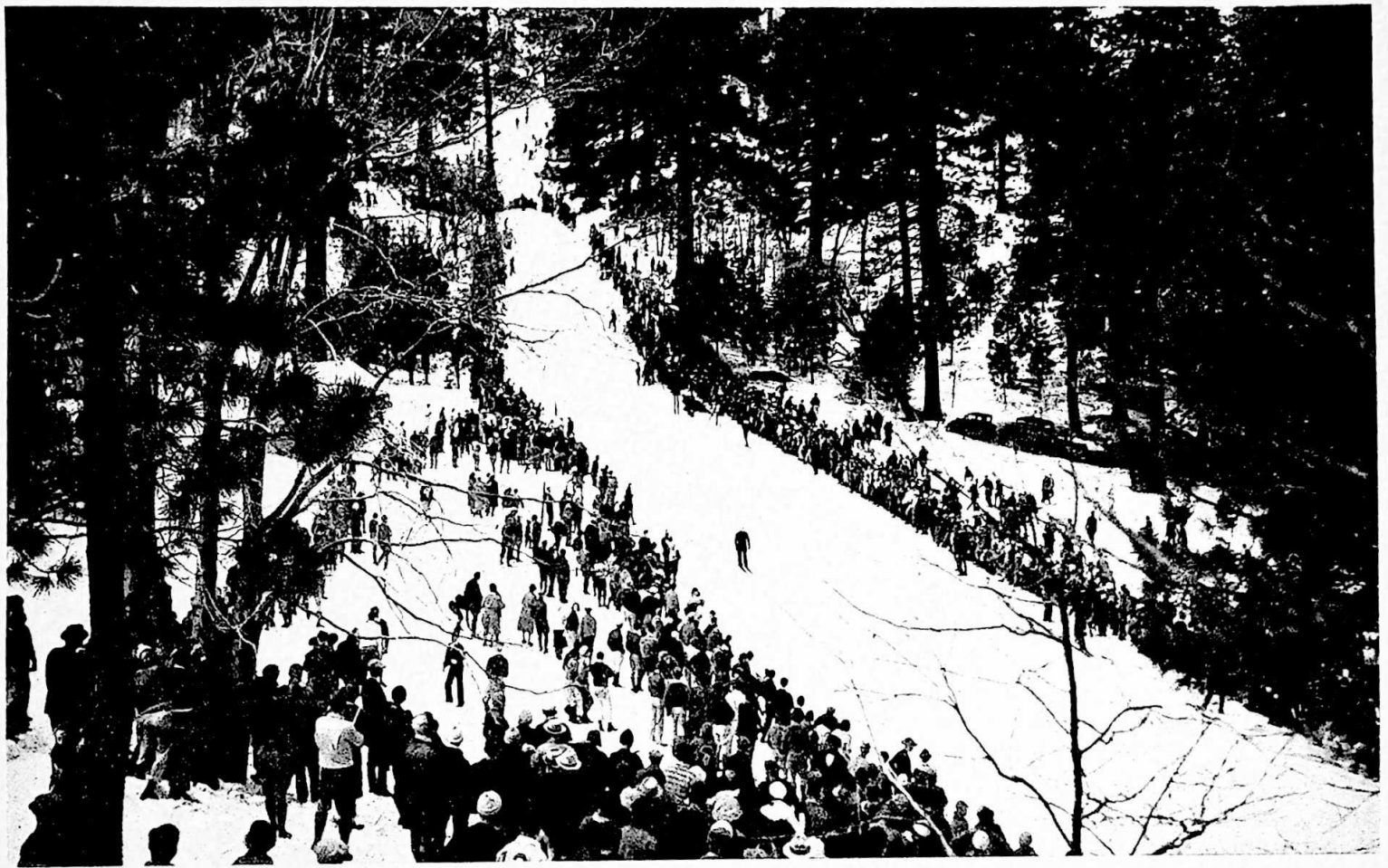
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SKI JUMPING AT BIG PINES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S FOREST PLAYGROUND



# Trails Magazine

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THE MOUNTAIN LEAGUE  
of Southern California

A non-profit organization of representatives of Public Departments and Outing Clubs, formed for the purpose of stimulating the development and use of mountain trails and other facilities for outdoor recreation in Los Angeles County.

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## THE ANGELES FOREST SAYS: "THANK YOU, FRIENDS"

*We wish, through Trails Magazine, to thank our forest visitors for their splendid cooperation during 1936. With a season of great fire hazard and a tremendous increase in use, there has been only one fire, and that of minor importance, which could be attributed to hikers or recreationists in the Angeles National Forest. This is a remarkable record, unequalled in this area.*

WM. V. MENDENHALL, Supervisor  
Angeles National Forest

This year more than 2,000,000 persons have enjoyed the mountains of Los Angeles County; an average of 40,000 for every week-end throughout the year have added to health and happiness somewhere in our wonderful mountain playground. We cannot meet and talk personally, as we would like to do, with these thousands who go, most of them with the best of intentions but many not understanding the need, ridiculing the rules posted for their guidance and refusing to believe necessary the precautions they are asked to use.

Until they are brought to understand, every one of these is a potential danger; until they

can absorb the fact that our mountains in summer are like a barrel of powder, ready to blow up at the first flash of flame, that unlike the vegetation of other sections, every bush and tree will burn green, these mountains cannot be safe.

One of the principle objectives of Trails Magazine has been forest protection. We have tried to give you such service as to make of you zealous friends and self-appointed guardians. We have worked on the plan that if we could persuade only 1% of those 40,000 week-end guests to be real friends of our mountains, could send them out with a real love for the forests and canyons, and an understanding of their value to Southern California, we would place 400 extra forest guardians in our mountains every week-end and some of that 400 would be on every trail in the range, cautioning those who were careless or did not understand, guarding our forest playground against fire and other abuses.

And it is working; we know it is working. As evidence we point with pride to the 1936 record of the Angeles Forest with only one small fire which can be laid to hikers or recreationists.

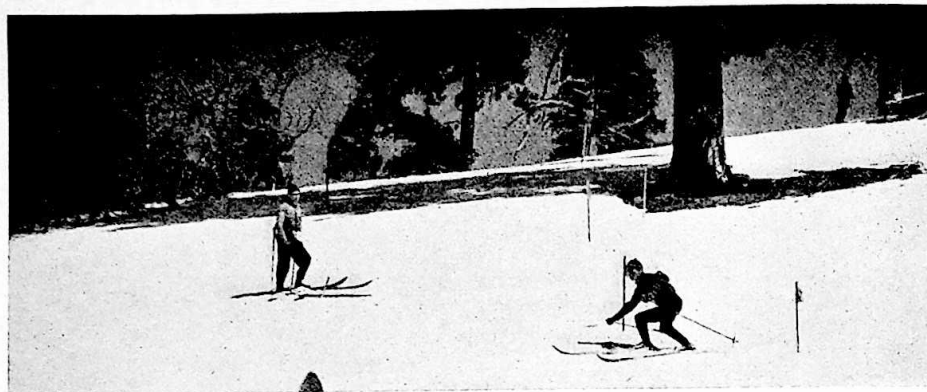
Now, never satisfied, we are going to ask for more. We ask that every one of the thousands who read Trails Magazine join our Forest Protection Force; that each and every one of you constitute yourself a forest guard; that you be friend alike to our mountains and those who use them; that you work, not with force and invective, but with friendly persuasion and correct information, to make, of all who go, friends and guardians like yourselves.

The banishing of destructive fires from our forest areas is an objective which can be reached and posterity will bless you for it.

## SNOW SPORTS FOR 1937

All Southern California is growing snow minded. Snow sports clothing, equipment and books of instruction are advertised and displayed on every side. Snow sports pictures of our own and European countries are drawing crowds of interested spectators. At our mountain camps and resorts greater preparations are being made for snow sports than ever before. We have the assurance from all weather agencies of above normal rainfall, which in the high country means snowfall. Everything points to the breaking of all Southern California records for snow sports crowds.





*On the Slalom Course—Big Pines Playground*

## SLALOM TO THE FORE

By E. LESTER LA VELLE

*(Editor's Note: Mr. La Velle has for many years given freely of his time to serve as instructor to thousands of skiers on the Pacific Slope. Of a studious and scientific turn of mind, he has earned the reputation of being one of the most effective teachers and best informed authorities on skiing in the West.)*

"The slalom has arrived. The battle for its recognition has been won, and the slalom has taken its place as one of the most valuable and most popular forms of ski competition," wrote Arnold Lunn, editor of the British Ski Year Book, in 1933.

That was both a statement of fact and a prophecy, for by the time of the last Winter Olympics not only had most of the prejudice against the slalom been overcome, but the entire skiing world had heartily endorsed this most exacting of the high speed sports available to man. It has proven its worth to the practical skier and has certainly won favor with the spectators.

During our own pre-Olympic trials at Mt. Rainier National Park the slalom received its full christening, at least as far as Western America is concerned.

The event was comparatively new to the sporting world, yet many more thousands crowded the park than had ever before been present at any one time. Nor were they idle spectators. They had for the most part trudged on foot for miles up thousands of feet through heavy snow to judge for themselves

of the skill, nerve, speed and dash so highly praised by their skiing friends, and *their* praise in turn has been growing louder and louder.

At the Fourth Winter Olympic Games at Garmisch it is reported that some twenty thousand spectators lined the slalom course. The F-I-S, the A-K and other international meets have proven proportionately popular.

So much for the spectators; now how about the participant? That may perhaps be best answered by another quotation.

In his splendidly written article, "Why Norway was the Best Skiing Nation this Year," appearing in the 1936 issue of the British Ski Year Book, Einer Bergsland wrote: "I am bold enough to tell you that it is Slalom which has made the big change in Norway," and holding the high position in the skiing world that he does, Einer Bergsland knows.

The change he refers to is important and no less astounding. Bergsland says: "Everyone wants to take part now. They do not want to see ten good skiers compete, but they want to be one of the thousand who compete with the good ten. That is the big difference and it is really good, too."

Although the Scandinavians made almost a clean sweep in the jumps and the langlauf and straight races at the Winter Olympics, the best they could do was fifth in the Ladies' Slalom and sixth in the Men's.

It was, doubtless, the very best thing that could have happened. Had they also won the slalom they might have legitimately continued to maintain (as they did several years ago and

as some of our shortsighted Americans still do) that the slalom had nothing to offer; that any really good skier—*langlauf*, jumping or just a good wood's runner—could enter and win over those mountaineer-skiers who specialize in the steep mountain running exemplified in the sport we call "slalom."

Referring again to the writings of Norwegian Ski Officials, they now admit they have been very conservative in the past regarding skiing methods, styles and competitions. Although skiing is a Norwegian invention, they have resisted long and strenuously the recognition of slalom as an International event, but the results of the last few years have brought about a decided change.

Formerly the Scandinavians disdained to look at a ski instruction book. "One just cannot learn to ski from books," they have written and said many, many times. But—concerning the slalom—Mr. Bergsland writes, "The new sport soon became popular and everybody tried it, but after a short time they learned that, though they were good skiers on easy courses, in woods they did not really know how to use their ski and they started listening to the experts of the country. And the experts who produced books, lectures and films have had a success in Norway so big that nobody could work against them. The success was as sure as skiing itself. I have credited slalom with the change in Norwegian skiing and I am doing it again."

"The hotels and clubs have seen the increase in business through encouraging active skiing, and especially the slalom. Now, since the railway companies have also seen the advantage of good service, the change has been easier than such things used to be. This winter there have been cheap return trains from Oslo every Saturday—the biggest train brought fifteen hundred people up to Finse for a slalom there."

"People used to bring with them their narrow *langlauf* skis with bad bindings and then they were bound to follow the lakes and valleys and were only able to *look* at the high mountains. Now that they have changed to a more practical outfit, they get more and more fun out of their nice country, which is difficult to compare with any winter country in the world."

What a wonderful, wonderful endorsement of a wonderful sport. Observe that he says they could formerly only *look* at the mountains (the italics are his), that they now use a "more practical outfit" and that they get more "fun." That's it! Fun! If fun cannot be gotten out of a sport either the sport or the sportsman should be squashed. I, for one, can certainly get the very essence of "fun" out of mountain skiing and from wide experience I am convinced that no other sport offers equal opportunity for enjoyment to an out-doors-loving humanity.



Start of a Slalom Race—Big Pines Playground

—Photo by Ethel Severson

Let us then make the best of the slalom to popularize fast, accurate skiing on the steep slopes, over-abundant with obstacles, such as are found here in Southern California. We humans are so constituted that it is practically impossible for us to judge other than by comparison. That which commands our respect today, we may laugh at tomorrow. So it is with winter mountaineering. In the words of our Norwegian friend, one can only "look" at the snow covered ranges when he lacks equipment and training.

If the dub forever associates with dubs; if he persists in using "all purpose," two-grooved, paraffined skis, with toe straps for bindings, he will, to the end of his skiing days, remain a dub. But if occasionally he happens to find himself among those who climb to the heights and take steeper and steeper slopes with ease and grace, actually to laugh from sheer joy at the thrills which the dub only fears—the dub, *by comparison*, gradually loses his fears and little by little increases his assurance and daring.

But to really accomplish anything worth while he must also have training. Just as the Norwegians who formerly thought "the Norwegian boy was supposed to know all about using his ski from his earliest years," but now it is different—they are beginning to realize that "this little boy learns just as many wrong as right things when he begins training himself."

Skiing brings to the skier an entirely new experience. There is nothing else one can do which can give you exactly the same sensations. I believe it can only be explained by realizing that it brings to the skier the new experience of consciously and effectively operating in another plane. It brings in the third dimension.

When you mount your skis and take to the slopes you no longer confine yourself to one plane of operation. You no longer step forward or back, up or down, right or left—two dimensions at a time. You glide without effort and that means a third dimension; in other words, you are going forward and to the right or left at will but *down* (the third dimension) at one and the same time. It is controlled falling on the slant.

That is why it is virtually impossible for one individual, though he devote a lifetime to study, to learn to know, by himself, all that is to be known about the art of skiing. The sport is so specialized, so new, so different that we must associate with others, we must

study their actions and reactions and, especially when we begin to ski, we should have instruction and training.

Competition has a definite place. The competitor in a slalom race, for instance, gains in a few seconds what otherwise he might not force himself to experience in years of ordinary skiing. He gains poise, control and confidence and so the snow-covered ranges lose their terror and, having lost that, become a glorious winter playground.

### PROGRAM OF WINTER SPORTS AT BIG PINES RECREATION CAMP — 1936-1937

- Jan. 1-2-3—Winter opening Snow Festival.
- Jan. 9-10—Big Pines Ski Club competitions; ski jumping, cross-country and slalom races, skating events, tobogganing.
- Jan. 16-17—Exhibition ski jumping, ski tours, skating, sledding, tobogganing.
- Jan. 23-24—International Invitational Ski Tournament of the Big Pines Ski Club, and 11th Annual Winter Sports Carnival of the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce; ski jumping in all classes, cross-country and slalom races, skating events, ice hockey, inter-collegiate events and ice carnival.
- Jan. 30-31—Exhibition ski jumping, ski tours, skating, tobogganing, sledding.
- Feb. 6-7—Fifth Annual Big Pines Snow Pageant; ski jumping competitions, cross-country and slalom races, speed and figure skating events, ice carnival.
- Feb. 13-14—Exhibition ski jumping, speed and figure skating, ski tours, tobogganing, etc.
- Feb. 20-21—All Organizations Snow Day—(churches, scouts, clubs, etc.)
- Feb. 27-28—Exhibition ski jumping, ski tours, skating, tobogganing.
- March 6-7—Big Pines Ski Club Final Tournament; ski jumping competitions, slalom and cross-country races, downhill races, etc.

Ski tours leave the club house every Sunday morning. You are cordially invited to accompany the members for a day's outing.



## SKI TRAILS AT BIG PINES

Big Pines ski trails are among the best in Southern California. These trails vary in width from one hundred feet to one hundred yards and are clear of timber, brush and stumps, giving the skier an opportunity to descend his favorite slope in safety.

Trail No. 1 is located on Table Mountain, starting at the Smithsonian Observatory, and runs westerly for one and one-half miles. It is all down grade with a vertical descent of 800 feet.

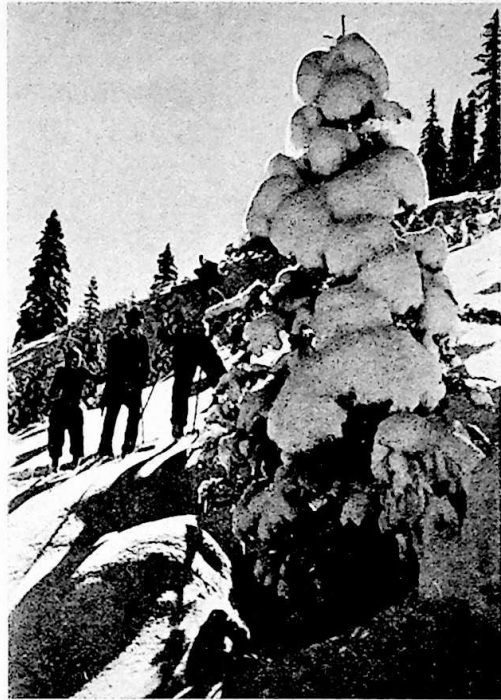
Trail No. 1-A starts at the same place as Trail No. 1 and bears to the north for a distance of three-tenths of a mile, connecting again with No. 1. This trail goes through the finest practice slopes in the Table Mountain area.

Trail No. 2 commences just above the Junior Ski Jump, rounds the reservoir and follows the side of the hill above the motor road, to the top of Blue Ridge east of Inspiration Point. It then follows the motor road east to Johnson Flat, where it leaves the road and proceeds over the hill on the left, continuing across Bald Flat and on to the Blue Ridge Ski Hut. This trail is about five miles and makes an ideal trip for one day. The vertical ascent is a little over sixteen hundred feet and the start should be made not later than 11 a.m. This, together with a rest at the ski hut, will bring the skier back to camp well before dark.

Trail No. 3, while not a touring trail, offers a quick return from Trail No. 2. It commences on Trail No. 2 about one-half mile east of the top of the Master Ski Jump, dropping down to the run-off of the Master. One may then continue down the road to camp. The trail is approximately three thousand feet in length with a vertical drop of nearly five hundred feet. The lower part of this trail is used for our contests in slalom and downhill running. We warn skiers that this descent is very fast and therefore dangerous, and they should exercise every precaution on this hill. The average grade is approximately twenty per cent and steepens to well over twenty-five per cent in places.

### BLUE RIDGE SKI HUT

On the north side of Lookout Point, highest point of the Blue Ridge and four miles from the Main Camp at Big Pines, is a refuge and first aid station for the convenience of skiers or any who need its protection.



—Photo by Walter Mosauer

### *Ski Trails Through Sparkling Paradise*

Though last year's snow season at Big Pines was short and the fall far less than normal, the Blue Ridge Ski Hut proved its worth and was several times used as emergency shelter. It has sleeping accommodations for four, a stove, cooking utensils, lantern and fuel. There are also emergency rations and medical supplies.

The hut is reached by going over the Master ski jump, or via trail No. 2, turning east (to the left) on the road at the top, following along the road for about two miles, to Johnson Flats, then following Ski Trail No. 2 over the hill to the left, continuing to the top, upon which the hut is situated.

**WARNING**—If a person finds it necessary to use any of the emergency rations at the hut, they should report to some one in authority at Big Pines in order that the deficiency may be made up immediately. We cannot press this point too strongly, for just as it was necessary for you to have aid, some one else's need will be as vital.

# SCORING POINTS IN SKI JUMPS

W. A. TREADWELL, JR.  
President, Big Pines Ski Club.

Ski jumping competition is a sport where each individual or team competes in an event for certain points. The method of compiling and the amount of points that a jumper receives for certain efforts in style or distance is little known to the average sportsman.

In certain types of team competition, such as football, it is well known that a touchdown counts six points and a conversion one point, and so on. The same is true with baseball. Everyone knows that a runner crossing the plate counts the team one run or point, but when it is said that a certain man wins a ski meet with a total of 239 points, the average sportsman does not know that this is almost an impossible score or how it might be compiled.

The best analogy to ski jumping competition is the method of compiling points in a track meet where first prize receives so many points, second prize receives so many less, and so on, for as many places as are to be considered in the meet. There is, however, one fundamental difference between skiing competition and track competition in that the style of a runner, high jumper or a hurdler is not considered in compiling his points. The art of diving on the other hand is judged entirely upon style, distance or speed not being a factor in the determination of the winner. Ski jumping is a sport where style as well as distance both contribute to the points or score of the contestant.

Generally the arrangements for conducting a ski jumping meet are such that three judges rate the contestants on two competitive jumps, both for style and distance. In considering distance, the longest standing jump made during both competitive flights is entitled to twenty points. All other distance points are less in the amount of approximately one-half a point for each meter less than the longest jump, and ten points are subtracted from distance points on a fall. Each contestant is awarded his distance point by each judge so that if there are three judges the longest standing jump is entitled to 60 points for distance. A standing jump is one where the contestant rides out the hill without falling or his hands touching the ground or contestant's skis.

Now to cover the distance points. Should a rider make two competitive jumps of equal distance and stand on both and the distance of

the jumps be the longest standing of the day, then with three judges his distance points would be 120, or maximum.

The greatest number of style points is also 120, with the same two jumps and three judges, because each judge is entitled to a maximum award of 20 points on each jump. Under the above number of jumps and judges, it can be seen that 120 points is the highest award that can be made, thus for distance and style a total of 240 points can be awarded.

Faults in style or form like shorter distances cause certain deductions to be made from the total of 20 points allowed each judge for style on each jump. Many items in the balance, grace, effort and posture of the skier cause each judge to make deductions from his allotted 20 points per jump.

The greatest loss to a contestant is a fall, which will cause a deduction of 4 to 20 points. If he falls on or above the take-off he will lose 20, on the other hand, if the fall is made beyond the dip he may lose but 4 points.

Lack of effort on the take-off is a serious fault and is the next greatest cause of the contestant losing style points. If the skier slides off the take-off with inadequate spring or jumping effort he may lose 4 of his style points from each judge and he will lose less and less as his effort increases. Skis crossed laterally or horizontally while the rider is in the air causes a loss of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 points. Incorrect position of the body in the air and on landing as well as the excessive use of arms again results in loss of style points. To escape deductions, the skier must not be unsteady in the air, twist the body sideways or show a lack of confidence.

Tables of values for different distances and suggested penalties were formulated by the F.I.S. at the International Ski Congress held in Paris in 1932, as well as rules and regulations for International competition.

In order to show the fundamentals of judging ski jumping, the above was made as simple as possible, but a good judge must have extensive knowledge and experience.

All meets must have accredited judges of the National Ski Association in order to have any such records, as are made, accepted as a record by the California or National Association.

*Perfect Form*

### A PULLBACK?

Feeling the pulse of many of our ski enthusiasts who have but one day a week to ski, and who desire to get in as many rides DOWN the hill as possible in their allotted time, we are attempting to install a power pull-back on the slalom course this winter. We are not promising, but we are pulling.

### THE OLDEST SEQUOIA

When Moses stood on Mount Sinai,  
And ten commandments there received,  
Six hundred years of age was I  
And truths I bear were then believed  
By native man whom I had known,  
For I observed each old command  
Ere it was carved upon a stone;  
But just one speech I understand,  
Called "love" or "kindness" as you please,  
It means the same to all the trees.

With all my years, these words from me:  
For mind and soul in tree or man,  
The best of life is to be free,  
And I was free ere man began;  
I draw from heaven her richest gift,  
And pass it on to friend and foe,  
Which gives to me an upward lift:  
"Life void of its surpassing glow,  
Sets love upon a tottering throne."  
Engrave this also on a stone!

—Robert Sparks Walker.

### SKI CLUB HEADQUARTERS

By HARLOW DORMER, *Secretary*

A great many persons are not aware that the Big Pines Ski Club has one of the finest club houses in the western part of the United States. There is no club in California that owns a club house that can even compare to ours.

Situated about one-quarter mile from the main road on the road leading to Table Mountain ski fields, it serves as the headquarters of all activities. The main building has a large lobby complete with fireplace, writing table, lounges and reading material. Also on the lower floor is, what we believe, the most modern ski room in existence, complete with racks for the storage of skis and a work bench for waxing and the like.

Sleeping accommodations are provided on the second floor with a dormitory accommodating 16 persons, and, in two other rooms accommodating four and two persons respectively. Rest rooms on both floors complete with hot showers, and lastly, lockers for those who wish to leave their equipment from week to week.

This season we are adding a kitchen to our establishment, and plan to add more accommodations in the form of small two-room houses as needed.

### NEW WINTER SPORTS CENTER

#### Sun Valley in Southern Idaho to be America's Sport Paradise

Men, stripped to the waist, whirling down snow-clad mountains on skis . . . enjoying an outdoor plunge in warm-water pools . . . taking sun baths in ice igloos . . . these are some of the almost unbelievable features of America's new center of winter sports, Sun Valley, in southern Idaho.

Sun Valley, located near Ketchum, is scheduled to open during the coming Christmas holidays. Although surrounded by mountains rising 8,000 to 12,000 feet above sea level, Sun Valley is so completely protected from icy winds that it offers a unique combination of winter sports in sunshine and balmy weather.

Sun Valley Lodge will afford all the luxuries of a metropolitan hotel. Union Pacific will provide convenient train connections, and it is expected that some of the country's most notable sportsmen will be found at Sun Valley Lodge this winter.





*This marvelous field awaits the Ski Mountaineer*

## SKI MOUNTAINEERING

By WALTER

Downhill skiing has swept the United States like wildfire—if this simile is applicable to the sport of the frigid snows. The New England states in particular are witnessing a regular epidemic of skiing. Sixty-four snow trains left Boston during the past season and carried over 24,000 passengers. Yet skiing possibilities are by far not as attractive there as they are in our beautiful State. Long drives over icy roads, or rather expensive train rides are necessary to reach the skiing grounds, and these are located mostly in the heavily timbered areas of the mountains. Ski trails had to be hewn out by C.C.C. crews to make skiing possible.

While these hundreds of miles of expertly designed trails have created a fine variety of downhill runs, the sport on them is somewhat artificial. Skiing on a man-made trail, together with hundreds of other skiers, savors somewhat of a bobsled run, and this is emphasized if one of the many ski tows is used for speedy and effortless "climbing." Useful as the ski tow may be, making possible many more miles of downhill running each day by saving time and energy, it mechanizes skiing. The greatest interest attached to trail skiing lies in competition. Everybody wants to go faster than everybody else, the speed is continually increased, and downhill races are frequent and well frequented.

We in California are fortunate. In our mountains we have a wonderful variety of natural skiing territory, great treeless slopes, where we may ski among a panorama of silvery snow summits and towering rocky peaks. Our

terrain, therefore, is much more conducive to the recreational side of skiing, and to ski mountaineering, which is restful and relaxing even if it involves the physical effort of climbing 12,000 or 14,000 foot peaks.

Even while we are laboring up a steep slope near the summit, heart pounding and breathing hard, the very grandeur of the scenery around us—the view into the valley far below us—soothes our nerves and fills us with peace and contentment. The day after, our muscles may be tired, but our mind is ready to tackle with renewed vigor the problems and worries of everyday. Such is the beauty of non-competitive skiing, and all of us may enjoy it, man or woman or child, fifteen or fifty, rich or college instructor.

In Southern California, we have two superb peaks for our Alpine skiing. Mt. San Antonio (10,080 ft.), informally called Baldy, and Mt. San Geronimo, Southern California's highest mountain (11,485 ft.). The former is so easily accessible from Los Angeles that it is undoubtedly destined to become a popular center for the Los Angeles skiers with an ambition for more than tame nursery slope practice. The best ski runs are accessible from Manker Flats, or the San Antonio Canyon road, above the waterfalls, on the south side of the mountain.

There the Ski Mountaineers, formerly a separate organization, now a section of the Sierra Club, constructed a cabin at an altitude of 8,500 feet, within a stone's throw of the magnificent treeless summit slopes. The cabin



—Photo by Walter Mosauer

## NG IN CALIFORNIA

MOSEAUER

burned down this fall, and as this goes to press, the construction of a new, bigger cabin is well under way, again under the able and inspiring leadership of George O. Bauwens, a real mountaineer, formerly of the "Akademischer Alpenklub" at Munich.

Mt. San Geronio is the stamping ground of another very active group of ski enthusiasts, the Edelweiss Ski Club. But the splendid north slopes of this great mountain, especially the tremendous draw between it and Mt. Jepson, one of the lesser peaks in the range, are visited every year by every alpine skier of Southern California. A season just would not be complete without a series of long drawn out high speed turns and a good Schuss on those mile-long open slopes. What wonderful days we've all had up there, skiing in shorts during Easter or even later in the year! Both Baldy and San Geronio have good snow until early May, although it means carrying one's skis and pack a good long way to reach the snow line.

Mt. San Jacinto is a good ski mountain, too, and has been climbed by members of our Ski Mountaineers, but somehow, possibly because of the distance, it has not yet become popular. This spring we will try to climb it from Idylwild, and to ski down through Snow Creek, the steep draw visible from the highway to Palm Springs. Too steep? No, it isn't—it isn't any steeper than our slalom slope on Baldy, on which we hold our annual race.

A marvellous field for the skier with a love for great peaks, and open spaces is made ac-

cessible by the Owen's Valley highway to Reno. The east side of the Sierra Nevada is more opportune for alpine skiing because there it is much closer from the foot of the range to the very crest. Some points of the paved highway are 8,000 feet or more in altitude, and a direct climb over tremendous treeless slopes leads up to the peaks and passes, without too much horizontal distance to cover. From the west, the slope of the Sierra is so gradual that one is far from the crest of the range.

Last Easter vacation Bob Brinton and I climbed Dunderberg Peak (12,370 ft.) from Conway Summit, the pass between Mono Lake and the Bridgeport Valley. After enjoying the most inspiring panorama of a snowy mountain world, we shot in long straight, whizzing runs back to the cabins and to our car on a paved highway. And on Easter Sunday we had what we considered the best skiing of the year, at McGee Creek near Senator Carl Keough's hospitable hostelry, again shooting over tremendous open slopes right to our car, parked on the main highway: Such skiing is hard to find elsewhere combined with such convenient accessibility, especially so late in the season. Even as late as the middle of June groups of the Ski Mountaineers and of the Pomona College Ski Club have driven to ski fields high up near Tioga Pass and other places along this towering east wall.

The possibilities for alpine skiing, and for ski ascents during winter and spring, are almost inexhaustible in the Sierra Nevada, and most of the excellent trips still await the pio-

neer to make the first ski ascent. Outstanding in the history of ski mountaineering in the Sierra is the three months' camping trip of Bartholomew, who described his experiences in the *Sierra Club Bulletin*, 1931. He skied over a wide area of the range, and made ski ascents of several high passes and of Mt. Whitney. Other significant ski mountaineering feats were the crossing of the range by way of Tioga Pass, from Mono Lake to Yosemite by the German woman skier Milana Jank, and the lone wolf ski trip from Sequoia to Mt. Whitney, taken by the Bavarian ski ace, Otto Steiner, who spent five nights without a sleeping bag, just sitting up by a small fire, night after night. He was finally driven back by imminent avalanche danger within striking distance of his goal. Mt. Lyell (13,090 ft.) has been the aim of a group of intrepid ski mountaineers from the San Francisco Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club. These men attempted several times a winter ascent of Lyell from Yosemite and came close to success, only to be repelled by severe storms. Indefatigable, they came back and accomplished the ascent last winter.

Our Southern Skiers have been specializing

on ascents from the eastern base of the Sierra, for reasons mentioned above. Among the fine ski trips which members of our group have enjoyed in the past few years, we might mention ascents of Bishop Pass (11,989 ft.), Kearns Pass (11,823 ft.), Mammoth Mountain (11,000 ft.) from the east and from the north, a previous unsuccessful attempt on Dunderberg Peak, an attempt on Mt. Anna near Fales Hot Springs (on both of the latter trips an elevation of approximately 11,000 ft. was reached), and the ski ascent of Mt. Dana, last June, by Frank Richardson and others. We strongly discourage lone wolf trips by any but sturdy, self-reliant experts.

Splendid skiing may also be had on the mountains of Sequoia National Park (Alta Peak), Yosemite (Mt. Hoffman and others), and on Mt. Shasta and Mt. Lassen. Most of these high trips are safer and more enjoyable during or after March and April, because the days are longer, the weather more settled, and the solid spring snow furnishes a delightfully even and easy skiing medium. Severe blizzards, deep, loose snow, which means hard plodding and possible avalanche danger, and



*Worlds to Conquer*

—Photo by Lloyd Harmon





*Promise of a perfect day*

—Photo by Walter Mosauer

biting cold may make midwinter ski ascents a questionable pleasure. If one is lucky, however, and strikes a period of clear weather, skiing may be superbly good in January and February, too.

In any case, such trips should be attempted only by those who are sufficiently equipped for the hardships of the alpine winter. The desirable equipment which may be purchased at sports shops includes steel-edged skis, reliable bindings, canvas climbers or better, seal skins, crampons (climbing irons, steel spikes which are fastened to the boots for climbing steep frozen slopes), a windproof parka, snow-proof mittens, snow goggles, sunburn cream, a compass, a first aid kit, and a repair kit for skis, bindings, etc. The equipment which the skier himself must furnish, and which he cannot buy for any sum, includes physical endurance and mental determination, a certain mastery of skiing technique, mountain craft and snow craft, and good judgment in deciding just how far all this equipment can safely take him. Beyond all, he must love his mountains and his skiing strongly enough to take hardships and dangers into the bargain, to enjoy the struggle with the fierce elements, and to persist in the face of adversity.

The ascents mentioned above were preliminary explorations of the skiing possibilities of the Sierra, but much remains yet to be done—and will be done, by people with a great love for the mountains and the splendid views of

snowy ranges stretching away to the horizon. After the pioneers, an ever-increasing number of skiing enthusiasts will invade the canyons and slopes of the Sierra. From them they will carry health and happiness back to the city and the humdrum of everyday existence.

### I CLIMB A MOUNTAIN

A dim and narrow trail winds upward toward the sky, 'round trees, 'cross streams, o'er crag, o'er rock piled high. My feet are tired. I stop the while to rest. My heart is thrilled. My eyes by a vision blessed. Behind, below, a frothy sea of clouds, the valley's plaided pattern closely shrouds. Ahead, above, the mountain rises bleak in majestic grandeur to the snow-capped peak now bathed in brilliance by the noon-day sun. Here is truly God's great handiwork well done!

The trail now follows along a sparkling stream, past deep blue pools, by waterfalls . . . climbing on I seem to be living in the not so distant past when all nature was unspoiled. ¶ From earth, at last, man came crawling and learned to stand and look upon His world magnificent. Nature's picture book is opened here to beauties rare . . . sublime and like that hairy one, I say that it is mine, for I have gained a vantage, a pinnacle most high. ¶ From here I see . . . how great is God . . . how frail and how small am I!

—Composed and copyrighted 1935 by Virgil Judson  
Temple, Glendale, California.

### TRAILS MAGAZINE

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1937

# SKI WAX AND HOW TO USE IT

*On account of the great interest in this last year, for the guidance of new members and because we know of none better suited to Southern California snow conditions, we reprint this article on the use of wax.*

The average ski runner and a large number of the more experienced ones seem to take not the slightest interest in the vital question of wax. Proper waxing can add immeasurably to the enjoyment and comfort of any ski expedition, and the runner who neglects to prepare his ski properly is usually a hindrance to those who do. To prepare for downhill running is very simple and the following notes may be of assistance and interest.

## Hard Wax

The under surface of the ski must first be smooth and unscored, as wax is not for filling up scores. For this use a cabinet scraper, working from front to back with the grain.

Wax comes in block form and can be softened by using a hot iron, pressing the wax against the iron held above the surface of the ski, allowing the melted wax to drop on the running surface. After sufficient wax has been melted on to the ski, use the iron to smooth it into a thin, continuous layer. Care must be taken to clean the groove, for wax left there makes traversing very difficult. Experience will soon show the correct thickness; if too thick it will scale off in the snow.

Skiis to be very fast must be polished with a block of cork or the palm of the hand. A highly glazed surface is obtained in this manner. Some proponents advise the use of hard wax on the front and back of the ski, leaving about eighteen inches in the center free for some sort of climbing wax. Always be certain that the wax used has time to become hardened to its own viscosity before the skiis are used, for if the wax is too soft, it has a retarding effect that may result in calamity.

At the top of a climb give the waxed surface a rub over with a block of paraffin so that a thin film is left over the hard wax, being careful to not use paraffin when temperatures are below freezing. Skiis thus prepared will be fast over all conditions of snow, and will run well even over falling snow. If a halt is made in the descent, give the ski a light rub with paraffin before continuing.

## Semi-Plastic Wax

Another wax which gives an excellent running surface is the semi-plastic type, such as Attenhofer's "Record." In this case the running surface must be quite perfect as the wax film is very thin. Apply as follows: Having rubbed occasional smears of wax on the ski, take the palm of the hand and briskly polish into a thin coating. A little experience will show the correct amount to apply, too much leaves the ski sticky. After polishing with the hand use a soft cloth to give a higher gloss. Record wax may be applied at any time and paraffin may be applied over it.

## Climbing or Plastic Wax

Climbing wax forms a plastic surface, like a thin cushion, against the snow crystals in which they can embed themselves slightly, thus holding the ski. Any deliberate sliding motion must be sufficient to smooth out the indentations left by the snow facets, so one can readily see that the mixture must be adapted to the existing snow conditions, however though the use of these waxes is a delicate manipulation they are well worth the effort, for a correctly waxed ski can give amazing power of climbing and yet be fast downhill.

## Suggestions

Since every ski runner has his own beliefs concerning the use of waxes and the different makes and grades one should use, it seems a question that will never be settled. However, we give a few of the general rules, and a few of the makes and grades, in an effort to help the novice to proper selection so that he may enjoy the sport; also, a few general hints, found by the trial and error method concerning waxes suitable for the area in and around Big Pines Recreation Camp.

1. Clean the ski well of all grease and dirt.
2. Smooth the ski with a scraper of some sort.
3. Put on a layer of Attenhofer's "Record" fore and aft, leaving about 18 inches in the center for climbing wax.
4. Smooth this out with the hand and let it cool before using.
5. The rule for climbing waxes is that, the colder, drier, and more crystalline the snow, the harder the wax (Mix), and the more granular the snow, the stickier the wax.

(Continued on Page 27)

## OUR COVER PICTURE

"Coming Events." We think our readers will agree that this beautiful and unusual photograph, by Ethel Severson, typifies the snow sports which are to come and is just made for the Snow Sports Number.

It was taken during the conditioning of the Master Hill at Big Pines for the Winter Sports Carnival of February 29, 1935.

Under the title "Ski Shadows" it has attracted attention wherever exhibited, and at the Sports and Action Salon of Paramount Studio Camera Club, won first place in the Amateur Class.

Miss Severson, an expert skier, is a member of the Sierra Club and of the Ski Mountaineers of California; also, we are pleased to state, a regular contributor to TRAILS MAGAZINE.

## MEMBERS ABROAD

We note with interest that Glen Dawson, one of our members, has been enjoying a visit to the European Alps and sticking the Edelweiss in his alpine hat on the Zillertal. Our informer states further that Glen presented himself as exhibit "A" in the "Ski Mountaineering Course" held by the Alpine Ski Club by allowing them to lower him down a crevasse from which he was to be rescued by the class. We presume he was returned to the surface safely for he, together with Miss E. Fernandes, won the Berliner Trophy, presented for a slalom race in which two persons run a course roped together.

We do not know what this sort of a race proves, but it was good to hear what Glen was doing, anyway.

## BOOKS ON SKIING

Dr. Walter Mosauer, whose interesting story of Ski Mountaineering appears in this issue, is well known to all snow sports enthusiasts in the West. He is the author of a popular little book on skiing, titled "On Skis Over The Mountain," a second and revised edition of which will be off the press early in December.

He has now in preparation and soon to be published, a much more pretentious volume on "Ski Touring and Ski Racing." This will be a book of instruction in the latest style of skiing from rock-bottom to expert mountaineering and racing, profusely illustrated with photographs by the author, and with countless hints on equipment, first aid, photography, etc.

## SKI FEVER

By ETHEL SEVERSON

*Sierra Club, So. California Chapter*

A strange new malady is spreading with alarming rapidity in the ranks of the Sierra Club. It may be analyzed somewhat like this:

*Complaint:* An irresistible desire to have the feet strapped to a pair of long boards.

*Diagnosis:* Ski fever.

*History:* The patient, ordinarily a rational soul, was loaned a pair of skis by a well-meaning friend. The fever seized him during his first slide and spill, and since that time it never has left him.

*Symptoms:* The patient devours avidly all literature on skiing, gazes at displays of ski paraphernalia in a state of hypnosis from which he can be shaken only by drastic means. He is ardently concerned with weather reports, and emits wild whoops when he wakes to find that during the night the mountains have put on fresh white raiment. Incessantly, and with almost reverential care, he oils his heavy boots and grooms his skis. He spends hours on a small rug practicing a contortion that he calls the "Christy." He indulges in long mysterious conversations in which occur frequently the words: "telemark," "Gelaendesprung," "Skare," "bindings," "slalom," "crouch," and "stem." Nearly every week-end he disappears, returning at the latest possible hour Sunday night with a look of quite idiotic content on his snow-burned face. For a day or two then he radiates a general aura of peace and goodwill, but if questioned as to his week-end's activities he merely says, with a pitying look: "You really couldn't understand. You have to ski for yourself."

*Treatment:* Since the fever is in most cases admittedly incurable, the patient should be allowed to seek relief as often as possible. He may find his remedy on the hills at Big Bear Lake, or on the long alpine ski runs of San Antonio, or at Big Pines, where from the hushed white top of Table Mountains he can look down upon the pale distances of the Mojave Desert. If his case is acute the only satisfactory relief will be found in spending a week or two at the Sierra Club ski lodge near the summit of the Sierra, in a world of snow. At places like these, in the companionship of others blessed with the same divine fever, he finds alleviation for his complaint. With poles in his hands, the crunch of snow under his skis, and the keen, crisp air in his face, he is completely happy.



## ANGELES FOREST NEWS

**Devil's Backbone**

This famous trail to Mt. San Antonio has been changed and improved with guard rails across the narrow ridge. The route up over the rocks, most dangerous part of the trail, is to be entirely eliminated and a new trail built around the south slope. This, we are assured, will be completed beyond the cliffs before snow flies.

**Honoring a Great Citizen**

Throop Peak, which was named in honor of Amoz G. Throop, founder of California Institute of Technology at Pasadena, and later changed to North Baldy, will again be designated Throop Peak on the new maps of the Angeles Forest, now being printed at Washington.

**Sheep Springs**

TRAILS is glad to announce a new and very beautiful campground at Sheep Springs, one-quarter mile from the summit of Mt. Pacifico, on the northwest slope. Improvements are rather crude but there is one table and stove and loads of good pine needles for beds. Also two springs, of delicious, ice cold water.

If you haven't been to Mt. Pacifico you have missed a treat. From the parking place on the road at Indian Ridge Trail it is only .8 of a mile to the summit and 1 mile to Sheep Springs. The summit is a natural park covered with great rocks and trees and the view of Mojave Desert is one of the best.

**Another Old Name to Return**

Negro Canyon, site of the Brown Brothers old log cabin which was pictured in Winter Trails, is to return to its original name "El Prieto" on the new maps of the Angeles Forest. We are told that El Prieto means the dark man and not necessarily negro.

**Angeles Forest Roads**

A third prison camp has been established on upper Big Tuungaj to speed construction of the Palmdale cut-off. Workers from the camp near Kentucky Springs have completed the grade from Mint Canyon Highway at Vincent to the summit of the main range at Aliso Canyon-Mill Creek Divide, 9.6 miles, and are now working in the head of Mill Creek. A second camp was lately established near the Forestry School in Clear Creek and is build-

## SAN ANTONIO SKI HUT BURNED



This ski hut, built in 1935 on the side of Mount San Antonio at an elevation of 9,000 feet by the Ski Mountaineers section of the Sierra Club, was burned in September, 1936. The Ski Mountaineers, far from being discouraged, immediately began to rebuild. The new hut, twice as large as the previous hut, will be ready for use during the coming ski season.

ETHEL SEVERSON, *Ski Mountaineers*

ing from Angeles Crest Highway at the head of Clear Creek around the east wall of Big Tujunga Canyon. These three camps, now using modern road machinery, should complete this highway within the next three years.

**A Distinguished Visitor**

On Monday, October 5th, the Editor had the pleasure of a trip over the Angeles Crest Highway and luncheon at Mt. Wilson with Myron H. Avery, chairman of the Board of Managers of the Appalachian Trail Conference and president of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, and Clinton C. Clarke, president of the Pacific Coast Trail Conference.

These two gentlemen are the guiding spirits of the two greatest trails in the world, the Appalachian, 2,054 miles in length, from Mt. Katahdin in Maine to Mt. Oglathorpe in Georgia, and the Pacific Crest, 2,300 miles from the Canadian line above Mt. Baker to the Mexican line below Campo.

Needless to say that it was an interesting situation for one who is boosting the out-of-doors and it was gratifying to learn that no spirit of rivalry exists between these two great trail movements but only the most friendly co-operation.

## Outing Club News

### THE NATURE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

*By MAY ALSOP, Chairman of Hiking*

The outstanding trip of the past Summer was that to Mt. Lassen Volcanic Park. Most of the party climbed to the summit of the peak while a few took shorter nature walks in the surrounding area. Another fine trip to Ensenada, Mexico, October 10 and 11; a bird study trip and a very enjoyable one.

Beginning November 3, our regular Tuesday Dinner Meeting will be held at Boos Bros. Cafeteria, 530 South Hill Street. All Sunday trips start from this point.

Field trip of Saturday, November 14, will be to Crystal Cove, four miles south of Balboa, to study sea life. Sunday, November 29, we will have a hike in Monrovia Canyon to Deer Park.

We urge everyone to put up a fight to save our mountain trails. If the trails through the Colby Ranch are closed to the public it will not be long until others will follow. All interested must get busy right now.

### THE SAN ANTONIO CLUB A Hiking Club For Men Only

This year's has been another outstanding schedule, with every hike a good one, and again all within Los Angeles County.

The high spot of the schedule was, without doubt, the Labor Day week-end which included the Cooper Canyon-Little Rock-Pacific Crest Trail triangle from Buckhorn Flat on Sunday and the Mt. Pacifico-Sheep Springs trails on Monday, with two nights in beautiful Buckhorn Flat Camp.

To finish the year there will be only two one-day hikes through the holiday season. Sunday, November 1, a hike from the road on the San Antonio-Lytle Creek divide to Telegraph Peak and a return down Ice House Canyon for those who wish. Sunday, December 6, a hike to Barley Flat from Angeles Crest Highway at Red Box.

For information write or phone to Will H. Thrall, president, 400 S. Garfield, Alhambra, or Edward Coughran, secretary, 246 So. Putney, San Gabriel.

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## FOREST CONSERVATION CLUB OF PASADENA

By CHARLES E. WARNER, *President*

Prominent among summer activities of Forest Conservation Club was a meeting at the Warner residence in July when fire and flood as affecting Pasadena were discussed by Mr. Roger Jessup, members of the county staffs and club officials. Club members present were particularly impressed with Mr. Jessup's friendly attitude toward the interests of the hikers and protection of their homes.

Sunrise from Josephine Peak was an enjoyable and inspiring event. Participants gathered at 279 Grand View St., Pasadena, during the evening and sang around the big stone fireplace, then rolled up in sleeping bags for a short snooze. At 2 a.m., reinforced by hot coffee, the party drove out Angeles Crest Highway to the foot of the truck trail, where cars were parked and the climb of four and a quarter miles commenced.

About twenty-five hikers were in the party which arrived at the summit in time for the first rays of sunrise. All were impressed and thrilled by the unfolding of the new day as nature began to wake. Mr. and Mrs. Walsh awaited the party's arrival at the observation tower and helped to identify various scenic features of the landscape. After hot coffee and a short nap the tired party turned toward home, excepting a few of the super-energetic who hiked to Colby's Ranch en route. These midnight hikes to the sunrise are becoming increasingly popular. They are held about twice each year.

A small "side trip" was taken by some members to Big Pines recreation camp in early October. All members who participated were enthusiastic in their comments on the pleasures of this trip.

Events for the fourth quarter of 1936 are: Picnic at Washington Park, El Molino and Washington, Pasadena, 6 p.m., October 16. Fish Canyon hike, October 18, meeting at 8 a.m., at Colorado and Lake avenue. Kelly's Camp, November 15, meeting at Colorado and Lake avenue, at 7:30 a.m. Panorama Peak, December 13, meeting at end of Lincoln avenue car at 9 a.m.

Information concerning events may be obtained by phoning NIagara 4638, or TErrace 8457.

## WOMEN'S ATHLETIC CLUB OF GLENDALE

*Hiking Department*

The Women's Athletic Club of Glendale began its thirteenth year of activities with a dinner at the Glendale Masonic Temple on the evening of September 15, 1936.

The chairmen of the eight departments of this interesting club gave brief outlines of the work in various sports planned for the year.

This group is unique in the athletic club world in that it sponsors no teams in any sport. Each woman belonging to the club is required to be active in one or more of the sports represented in the weekly schedule. The physical well-being of the individual woman and good sportsmanship are the primary aims of this ideal organization.

If a member cares for swimming, golf, tennis or other competitive sport she may have all the thrill of striving to excel in her chosen field. If it is the out-of-doors, the mountains with their many trails and beauties which beckons her she joins the hiking department.

The hiking program for the coming Winter is an interesting one with trips into many of the unfrequented places. There will be some short hikes for the beginners with longer ones for those who like to explore the back country. These trips are scheduled each month in the club bulletin.

Any woman who wants to hike is urged to call the chairman and join this group on any trip. Mrs. S. M. Estabrook, chairman. DOuglas 9181-W.

## GLENDALE COMMUNITY HIKERS

The Autumn schedule of this popular hiking club will be well on its way by the time this appears. During October there was a hike through Winter Creek, an overnight trip to Orange County Park, a morning hike in Brand Park and moonlight frolic in Griffith Park.

Hikes scheduled for the balance of 1936 include November 8th—Oakwilde to Switzers and return. November 29—Monrovia Canyon to Deer Pak. December 20—Red Box to Barley Flat and return. Also breakfast hikes and moonlight hikes in the nearby hills.

For information of this club's rules and activities, write or phone to R. W. Haight, Chairman, 420 S. Lincoln Avenue, Glendale. Phones, VAndike 8785, Glendale 4872.



## CALIFORNIA TRAILS

### Organized to Save the Wilderness

The King's River highway is about half completed. If finished it will come within fifteen miles of cutting across the entire Sierra Nevada and will spoil a region which is visited by hundreds of pack trains and hiking parties each summer.

Members of California Trails hope that enough of the state's mountain areas can be preserved as wilderness so that trails will not become more crowded than highways. Except in the area of the Sierra Nevada between Kernville and Yosemite National Park, it is now hardly possible to make a week's pack trip without crossing one or more roads.

If the Kings River highway is completed, it will almost cut this area in half. If other organizations and individuals are willing to join our group in a united protest, it may yet be possible to persuade the Forest Service to discontinue work on the destructive, expensive road at the point on the South Fork of the Kings River to which it has thus far been completed.

Anyone interested in this campaign is asked to communicate with Martin Litton, 345 E. Redondo Blvd., Inglewood, California.

## THE YUCCA HIKING CLUB

*of Monrovia, California.*

First hike of the Autumn season, to Sturtevant Falls, October 13, 1936.

Following a summer season of somewhat irregular hiking, the Yucca Club of Monrovia resumed its regular schedule for the Fall and Winter on Tuesday, October 13. This first hike is usually a short one, and the two-mile trail in Santa Anita Canyon from the end of the road at Chantry Flats to Sturtevant Falls is just about right after Summer's lessened activities. During the lunch hour at the foot of lovely Sturtevant Falls the principal entertainer was a water ouzel disporting himself in the pool at the base of the falls and on the rocks and cliffs kept wet with the spray. He did many of the usual ouzel tricks and stunts.

Members of the day's party read and recited articles and poems appropriate to the mellowness of the October mood of the canyon. Mrs. Clara Borsvold recited an original, inspired by the mountain view from her home. Mrs. Victor Teaney, Mrs. Harold H. Scott, Miss Netty Coles and Richard Johnson each had a poem or nature thought article to read.

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The season's plans of the Yucca Hiking Club call for a regular schedule of hikes on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, with special hikes and moonlight hikes to be announced from time to time. The special hikes will be for longer distances than those on the regular schedule. The latter are designed especially to accommodate the hiking abilities of the less experienced.

Mrs. Harold H. Scott is president, Clifford Hanchette is vice-president and Richard Johnson is secretary.

## ROAMER HIKING CLUB

By AL CROSSLEY, *President*

Our Fall and Winter Schedule No. 36 is now available, containing many interesting and educational trips as well as some social events. Here are a few of them:

Oct. 11—Palos Verdes Hills to view interesting marine formations and fossils and possibly a swim if the weather permits.

Oct. 25—Annual Mystery Outing—This year to be held in the vicinity of Irvine Park.

Nov. 8—Bichota Canyon, where the scenery is wild and primitive.

Jan. 10—The Annual Snow Trip—Details must necessarily be given later but a grand time is assured.

Jan. 23—Kelly's Camp—elevation 8,300 feet. Previous trips have been so enjoyable we are returning again.

Feb. 14—Mt. Lawler. Easy; a mile high and a wonderful view.

Feb. 28—Condor Peak—for years the nesting place of the largest bird of flight.

Social events for the season include a Hal-lowe'en party at our Dark Canyon Clubhouse on October 31. A Thanksgiving party at the home of a member on November 21. A Christmas party at the Clubhouse on December 19, with dancing in the evening and a visit from Santa Claus. The Anniversary Dinner Dance on February 6 is an event which our entire membership anticipates with pleasure.

Open Clubhouse—not only on scheduled dates but many other Sundays and week-ends throughout the year, the Clubhouse in Dark Canyon, west of Arroyo Seco at Oakwilde, is enjoyed by members and their friends.

For further information call Ethel Green, Chairman of Membership Committee, ALbany 4058; or K. V. Peterson, Chairman of Outing Committee, TRinity 4751.

## CAMPING WITH GIRL SCOUTS

By RUTH C. PROUTY

*Supervisor Camp Program*

The Girl Scouts, Los Angeles Council, successfully completed twelve weeks of camping with a registration of 400 campers. The season opened July 2, for the tenth successive year at Camp Al Shira at Big Pines, Los Angeles County Playground. Miss Norma Northberg, of the local office, directed this camp with the assistance of nineteen experienced staff members. Program activities included swimming, riding, handcraft, folk dancing, games, nature interest, pioneer projects in lashing and outdoor cooking, campfire programs and many others. Many out-of-camp hikes were taken, going to Guffy's on Blue Ridge, the Smithsonian Institute on Table Mountain, Jackson Lake and places of interest on the desert. Two outdoor theatres, Sherwood Forest and Cedar Hollow, were constructed within the camp area and some highly entertaining and worthwhile dramatics produced. Al Shira was song-minded this year and held a series of Song Fests with group singing.

Camp Tapawingo, Los Angeles' second camp, located at Lake Cuyamaca on the San Diego Girl Scout site, opened August 2 for a four-week period. Horseback riding and swimming were two activities thoroughly enjoyed, and many exploring hikes were taken into the surrounding country which is most beautiful and interesting. Mrs. Ruth Prouty was the director.

Six Day-Camps, sponsored by the Girl Scouts for stay-at-home girls, also proved most successful. A total of 2433 registrations were listed. These were held in widely separated areas to facilitate transportation and to reach the girls. A total of 241 volunteer leaders assisted at the day-camps, many devoting one day a week for the six-week period. Pre-camp training was given to many of these leaders interested in teaching nature, handcraft and dramatics. Miss Lois Page, Girl Scout Local Director for Pasadena, supervised the day-camps.

Saturday, October 10, opened the first of the Winter week-end camps for Los Angeles Girl Scouts. Week-end camps are operated each second and fifth week-end of the school year. Last year this program became so popular that waiting lists formed six weeks in advance. A program of Girl Scout techniques,

handcraft, nature, singing and games is offered. Mrs. Ruth Prouty, with the assistance of leaders who are working in the organization, directs this series of camps. All-day hikes and over-night camping is also enjoyed by individual troops in the city and many are taking advantage of the ideal Fall weather to camp in the nearby mountains.

### WOODCRAFT RANGER NEWS

By HAROLD L. BOYNTON, *Exec. Sec'y*

The Woodcraft Rangers plan many events for the boys of the organization during the Winter months, including visits to the Union Airport, to the United States battleships in the harbor in Long Beach, archery and nature study classes, roller skating parties, and so forth. Hiking will not be neglected, and there will be a number of trips by the various Woodcraft groups to Camp Ah-Da-Hi (which is situated on the West Fork of the San Gabriel River about two and one-half miles from Opid's Camp, and about one-half mile from Valley Forge). There will also be hikes to many of the mountain peaks of Los Angeles County.

### MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Interesting and instructive field trips are planned by the Mineralogical Society of Southern California for the coming season. A three-day trip into the Coachella Valley, Yuha Basin and Pinto Mountain region will be taken during the Winter, and a two-day trip to the Coso Hot Springs district in the early Spring. During Spring vacation, the Geology Department of Pasadena Junior College and the Mineralogical Society of Southern California will combine under the leadership of E. V. Van Amringe, instructor in geology at Pasadena J. C. for a collecting trip into Arizona, New Mexico and as far east as Mesa Verde National Park in Colorado.

Monthly short, one-day collecting trips will be held to Southern California mines and features of geologic interest.

The Society meets at the Pasadena Public Library on the second Monday night of each month, and the public is welcome. At the October meeting W. L. Cozzen of the Fairchild Aerial Survey spoke on "Aerial Mapping with Relation to Geology."

Wendall O. Stewart, Secretary, 108 E. Colorado Blvd., Monrovia, California.

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—Photo by Walter Mosauer

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## Trail Trips

### Condor Peak Trail to Fern Bed—½ Day

Turn north from Foothill boulevard at Mt. Gleason avenue. Drive up Big Tujunga Canyon to Voegal Flat and park the auto in the Forestry Campground. Hike the trail north from the campground, up the west slope and follow this trail to a beautiful bed of ferns and a small stream, 3.5 miles. Views are unusually fine. Round trip hiking distance, 7 miles.

### Fish Canyon Falls—½ Day

Drive Foothill boulevard to just east of Duarte and turn left on marked road to mouth of Fish Canyon. Park auto and hike road and trail up canyon to Falls, 200 feet high, 2¾ miles. Plenty of water. Picnic ground at Falls. Total hike, 5½ miles.

### Signal Rock Trail, from Camp Baldy—½ Day

Hike north on road to old site of Mirror Lake, ¼ mile. Here turn south (right) on trail around the mountain side east of Camp Baldy to Barrett Canyon, 3 miles. Turn left on Barrett Canyon road to San Antonio Canyon Highway, ½ mile, and up to Camp Baldy, 1½ miles. Water at convenient intervals. Total hike, 5 miles.

### Around Table Mountain from Big Pines Arch—½ Day

Going east from Arch take first road to the left from highway and follow short distance to trail to north (right) leading around east and north sides of Table Mountain to Camp McClelland on the west, 2½ miles, and road back to Arch, 1 mile.

This hike includes some very fine forest, good views over Wrightwood, down Le Montaine Canyon, over the Mojave Desert and west over Big Pines Park. Carry water. Total hiking distance, 3½ miles.

### Mesa Peak, from Crater Camp—1 Day

Drive Ventura Highway to a public road turning south (left) about 4 miles beyond Calabasas, and on this road to Crater Camp and park the auto. Hike trail west through gate, cross Malibu Creek on foot bridge and take trail up the ridge west of the creek. Trail passes through a bed of sea fossils, just below the summit, reaching the summit in 1.5 miles, then west along the top, also through fossil deposits to Mesa Peak, 1.5 miles. Return by same route. Carry water and cold lunch. No fires allowed. Total hike, 6 miles.

### Mt. Lukens (Sister Elsie Peak), Elevation 5,081 Feet, from Angeles Crest Highway—1 Day

Trail easy and interesting—magnificent view from summit, particularly when the higher ranges are covered with snow.

Drive Angeles Crest Highway to Mt. Lukens Trail, starting west (left) near Ranger Station and 3.5 miles from Foothill boulevard. Hike to the summit, 6 miles, and return by same trail. Carry water and lunch. No fires. Total hiking distance, 12 miles.

### Bear Canyon-Mt. Lowe Tavern, by Millard's Canyon—1 Day

Drive up Sunset Ridge Drive, Altadena, to crest of the ridge and park auto at Ranger Station. Hike level trail around mountain side to meet Millard Canyon stream above falls, then up canyon past Dawn Mine, 2½ miles, and over divide to Bear Canyon stream, 2 miles, and down stream to Forestry Camp ground No. 16, ½ mile, and have lunch.

Returning to summit of Bear Canyon-Millard Canyon divide, 1 mile, take trail to east (left) to Mt. Lowe Tavern, 2 miles. From here go down railroad and trail to Dawn Station and from there down Dawn Trail to Dawn Mine and back to auto at Ranger Station. Water on the return trip at Mt. Lowe Tavern. If planning to use fire secure permit before starting. Total hiking distance, 13 miles.

### Over Mt. Wilson—by Big Santa Anita Canyon—1 Day

Drive north from Foothill boulevard, on Santa Anita avenue, Arcadia, and continue on the mountain extension to parking place at end.

Hike the trail down to the stream at First Water Camp, .8 mile, then up the canyon, passing Fern Lodge, 1.2 miles, to Sturtevant Camp, 2.2 miles. Then a short distance above Sturtevant's the trail swings to the left to the summit of Mt. Wilson, 3.5 miles.

From directly south of Hotel take a trail down to the road and follow the road to the Hoegee Camp-Big Santa Anita trail, 1.5 miles; down this trail to Hoegee's Camp, 2.5 miles, and either the high trail or the Winter Creek trail back to the auto, 2.5 miles. Carry water from Sturtevant's to Mt. Wilson and Mt. Wilson to Hoegee's. Take cold lunch or get lunch at resorts on the way. Total hike, 14 miles.

### Bear Creek—from Coldbrook Camp—1 Day

Hike the trail starting from the road a short distance below Coldbrook Ranger Station, west to summit of divide, north of Smith Mountain, 2.5 miles, and down into Bear Creek, 3.5 miles. It is about 2 miles up the stream to the Falls or 1.5 miles down stream to a good campground at the west fork of Bear Creek. Carry lunch and small canteen, as no water until Bear Creek is reached. Return by same route. No fires allowed except at the West Fork Camp.

If transportation arrangements can be made, may continue down Bear Creek to West Fork of San Gabriel, 3.5 miles, and down West Fork to meet transportation at the gate, 1 mile. Hiking distance, 12 miles either way.

### Mt. Hawkins—Elevation 8,418 Feet—from Crystal Lake Park—1 Day

Drive to Crystal Lake Park and leave the auto in East Flat at start of Mt. Islip trail. Hike thru beautiful forest to the summit of the Mt. Islip-Mt. Hawkins Divide, 3½ miles, and turn east (right) 2 miles, then south (right) along the ridge to the

summit of Mt. Hawkins,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile, elevation 8,418 feet. Wonderful views of mountain and desert. Water at Little Jimmie Springs just over the divide. Carry water from here to Mt. Hawkins. Total hike, 12 miles.

**Brown's Flat—by San Dimas and Fern Canyons—Beautiful Forested Area in Ancient Lake Bed—1 Day**

Drive San Dimas Canyon road to forks of Wolf-skill Canyon and park auto, short distance above the forks at intersection of San Dimas trail. Hike trail starting north (left) from the road up east wall of San Dimas Canyon to trail forks,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles, take right-hand trail to summit of San Dimas Fern Canyon divide,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, and turn south (right) down to and across Fern Canyon and up opposite slope to Browns Flat,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles and have lunch. Return by same route. No water between auto and Fern Canyon and none on Brown Flat. Carry Water from Fern Canyon both ways. No fires permitted in this area. Total hiking distance, 13 miles.

**Telegraph Peak and Head of Ice House Canyon, from San Antonio-Little Creek Road—1 Day**

Drive up San Antonio Canyon road to summit of San Antonio-Little Creek divide and park auto. Hike trail south (right) to Telegraph Peak, elevation 9,008 feet, 3 miles, and on to head of Ice House Canyon,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles and have lunch. If desired may continue on to Kelly's Camp Resort, 1 mile. Return by same route. Carry water from auto as none on this trail until you reach Kelly's. No fires permitted on this trail after leaving auto.

If transportation arrangements can be made, may return by Ice House Canyon Trail, 4.6 miles. Round trip to head of Ice House, 11 miles. Round trip to Kelly's, 13 miles. To return by Ice House, 10 miles.

**Blue Ridge Lookout—from Big Pines Park by Wrightwood—1 Day**

Drive to Big Pines Park and park auto near the Arch. From Arch follow trail along foot of range on south side of the valley to Guffey Trail from Wrightwood to Blue Ridge, 3 miles, then turn south (right) up ridge to Guffy Camp, 3 miles, and have lunch. Then west (right) to Lookout Point, 1.5 miles. Follow west along ridge to Nature Trail, 1 mile, and back to the Arch,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Carry water and cold lunch or with fire permit may cook at Guffy Camp. Total hiking distance, 11 miles.

**Big Boulders of Soledad Canyon—1 Day**

Drive through Saugus and by Mint Canyon highway to junction with Soledad Canyon road. Then follow Soledad Canyon until you see a row of enormous boulder shaped rocks along the summit of a ridge north of the road. These rocks rise over 300 feet, the highest one 354 feet, above the supporting ridge, and the nearest one is easily climbed from the trail on the east side.

There is a trail up the canyon on either side, across private property but no objection. Carry water and cold lunch or there is a camp and picnic ground two miles down the Soledad road. Total hike, 3 to 4 miles.

**Mt. Pacifico and Sheep Springs—1 Day**

Beautifully forested summit—magnificent view of Mojave Desert—unusual campground. Drive Mint Canyon highway to Vincent and turn south on new highway to the summit of the main range at Aliso Canyon-Mill Creek divide, 9.6 miles. Turn east on good mountain road and park the auto at Round Top junction, 3.5 miles.

Hike trail leading east from the road directly opposite the Round Top road, up the mountain on easy grade, through beautiful forest, to trail turning left, 1.8 miles, around the slope on this trail to a Y,  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile, and left down the slope to Sheep Springs Camp,  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a mile, and stop for lunch.

After lunch return to trail junction and up open slope, no trail, to the summit,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile. Then back down a trail on the western ridge, and take first trail turning left down to the road,  $\frac{1}{8}$  of a mile, and the road back to the auto, 1.5 miles. Total hiking distance, 5 miles.

**SKI WAX AND HOW TO USE IT**

(Continued from Page 18)

6. DO NOT use an iron to apply climbing wax.
7. For dry snow use Oestbye Mix.
8. For sticky, clogging snow, use Oestbye Medium.
9. For wet snow use Klister (yellow tube) lightly over ski.
10. For jumping there are a number of preparations; for the most part a coating of shellac well smoothed out with steel wool and then coated with paraffin has proven a good method. There is also a preparation called "Tento" that is considered good, as well as "Hopski-vox," a product of Oestbye.

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